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News Release

UMC Horticulture Team Places 2nd at Competition

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Monday, March 21, 2005

The University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) traveled to Fort Collins, Colorado March 9-12 to the Mid-America Collegiate Horticultural Society (MACHS) annual meeting and competition. UMC's team placed second overall. Team members included Luke Wittkop, Hugo, MN, Naomi Schulstad, Erskine, MN, Candi Lee Fuller, Aitkin, MN, Aimee Grosam, Brownsdale, MN, and Cayla Wieland, Minneapolis, MN. Luke Wittkop was second-place individual overall placing second in identification of woody specimens and second in herbaceous identification. Schulstad placed first and Fuller placed third in the herbaceous identification competition.

The MACHS competition consisted of 85 individuals and 13 teams from Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Students competed individually or as part of a four-member team in four divisions: plant judging, plant identification of woody specimens, plant identification of herbaceous specimens, and a general knowledge exam. South Dakota State University won the competition. The competition was held on Thursday, March 10, and the winners were announced at an awards brunch on Saturday, March 12. Students attended workshops and took part in educational tours to Welby Gardens, the Denver Botanical Garden, Denver Zoo and Invesco Field, home of the Denver Broncos. The meeting emphasizes the region's horticulture industry.

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